

## DEER LEAP ROUTE OVERVIEW

authored by Nick Goldsmith

### Main Cliff (left side):

#### 1. Off Width, 5.6 \*\*\*, Protection: G

Description: Great moderate climb, topped by a large flake with a wide crack on its right side. Start at the far left of the cliff by a broken off birch. Climb a steep crack past several triangular pockets to an alcove. Then climb up and right on easy, unprotected face to the flake or stay in the crack with good gear, then traverse right to the flake. Layback the flake to the wide crack and summit with a gear belay on the top left of the cliff. Excellent beginner's lead. First Ascent: unknown, First Free Ascent: unknown.

#### 2. Monkey Direct, 5.10, 75 ft. Protection: PG

Description: Start about 8ft. right of OFF WIDTH and down about 10ft. Boulder up through a thin shallow crack that looks like an upside down T until it is possible to place good gear in the vertical crack. Climb steep face to a small triangular pocket that takes a bomber stopper. Climb hard face past a sloper flake well above your stopper to the good finger crack under THE MONKEY roof. Finish on THE MONKEY. First Ascent: Robert Clark and the late Steve Willard. August 1980.

#### 3. The Monkey, 5.8+, 75 ft., Protection: G

Description: An interesting boulder move to the right of the MONKEY DIRECT up a right slanting crack leads to easier climbing and a tuft of grass at the start of the MONKEY finger traverse. Traverse out left under the overhang on an exciting finger crack to a small stance at the far left end of the traverse. Climb straight up through the overhang to a stance (sand bag 5.8). A hard move up right leads to another stance. Move up along a small crack (takes stopper) slightly left to better cracks and top anchors. First Ascent: Al Romano, Arni Jr. and Bob Kirbach, mid 1960's, with home made pitons and a nylon rope from the marine supply store.

#### 4. The Bulge or Flying Groundhog, 75 ft., 5.10c\*\*\*

Description: Climb about six feet left out onto the finger traverse on THE MONKEY. Head straight up through the overhang on thin quartz holds until eventually joining THE MONKEY again on the upper part. There are only 2 good stopper placements on this route. To miss either one of them would increase the 'pucker factor' by at least 10! Long considered a top rope, Wild Woman head pointed the route and declared it safer than its reputation. The FLYING GROUND HOG is in honor of the kamikazi ground hog that jumped off the cliff while Isa worked the route. The little bugger landed at the base of CENTER CRACK in front of an astounded party (Jeff & Kevin) shook himself off and ran away. One of the best hard leads at the Leep. First Free Ascent: Isa Oehry and Nick Goldsmith, 5-25-2002

5. Mother May I?, 5.10+, Protection: R/X

Description: Start just 2 feet left of the small flake on CENTER CRACK (about 20ft. from the bottom) below the obvious bulge. Overcome a difficult bulge with small finger holds and follow a straight line to top anchors. First Ascent: Rumored to have been led by Sal Leventino on small wires and strong herb in the mid 80's.

6. Center Crack, 5.7, 75 ft., Protection: G

Description: One of the best moderate crack climbs anywhere. Start about 10 ft. right of THE MONKEY on a right slanting finger crack. Climb up to the top of a large flake (good stance) and follow the hand/finger crack until it eventually angles right to anchors. It is also possible to climb straight up to anchors instead of angling right at the top. The original line climbed face to the right of the upper sections of the crack, as the crack was too wide for the pitons of the day. First Ascent: Arni Kirbach Sr. and Carl Acker 1946. Arni Kirbach wore hob nail boots. Apparently quite a crowd gathered at the Inn on Rte. 4 to watch the spectacle. They got their money's worth as Arni took a ten footer onto his piton and then, after gathering his wits, continued on to the trees with cheers and car horns tooting from below.

7. Center Crack Direct, 5.8 \*\*\*, Protection: G

Description: From about 2/3 of the way up CENTER CRACK take a fine finger crack out left to the nose, then follow the finger/hand crack up the nose and face slightly right to the anchors.

8. Toot Route, 5.7+ R \*\*, PG 13+

Description: Start on the left edge of the pit. Climb the face on intricate finger holds straight up through a small overhang, staying about 12ft. right of CENTER CRACK. Continue climbing straight up through the face past various horizontal cracks to the anchors. The gear is good but far apart. Don't fall! First Ascent: Carl Wallescheck in the early 80's. He used double ropes and protected by traversing back and forth to place in either CENTER CRACK or off to the right. Isa Oehry and Nick Goldsmith decided to both lead this traditional 'top rope' on 05-08-02 by staying on its natural line without traversing and by placing a tiny stopper for 'mental health' at the notorious start of the climb. Fun!

9. Turkeyland, 5.8+\*\*\* PG

Description: Traverse out left under the Pit and the Pendulum roof. Climb around the left end of the roof heading straight up and then back right on thin 5.8+ face moves well above your gear. Rejoin the Pit and Pendulum at the flake stance or finish on any one of the upper lines. Real fun! First Ascent: unknown

10. Autumn Fever, 5.10d, 5.6R\*\*\*, PG

Description: Start on the Pit and Pendulum. Traverse out left under the roof to the pin (about 10ft. past where the Pit and Pendulum turns the roof). Climb straight up at the pin through the roof 5.10d/5.11a (?) 5.6R. Pin placed free on lead by Tradman. First Free Ascent: Isa Oehry 11/13/05

#### 11. The Pit and Pendulum, 100ft., 5.9\*\*\*, G

Description: From the right side of the pit just left of the sawed off stump, climb out left over the pit and up to underneath the overhang following a discontinuous crack system. Turn the roof at the horn and quartz knob, reaching a triangle pocket and a stance. Climb pleasant face and cracks up to a stance on top of a flake. Climb up a few feet past the flake and traverse left on a sweet 5.9 finger crack until you reach a bucket where it joins the TOOT ROUTE. Climb straight up to anchors. An easier finish would be avoiding the finger crack, continuing straight up the crack system to an easier left leading crack to the anchors. It is possible to turn the roof farther left on sketchy gear 5.10+ or to traverse to the end of the overhang to join the TOOT ROUTE. First Ascent: Al Romano, Arni Jr. and Bob Kirbach, mid 60's.

#### 12. The Tree or Stairway or Standard Route, 5.4\*\*, PG - not a great beginner's lead as the pro is tricky.

Description: From the sawed off stump at the right side of the pit head up the broken face on large holds formed by water runoff through an alcove to ring anchors. A 5.6 variation on the top goes straight up to the anchors where the 5.4 takes advantage of a weakness towards the right side.

### **Main Cliff** (right side):

#### 13. Extra Stout, 5.8, PG

Description: Climb PERFECT PINT to the bolt. Move delicately to the right into the bulge (crux). Pull through the bulge and angle left passing the spruce tree on its left, continue easy through the alcove to ring anchors. Bolt drilled on lead. First Ascent: Isa Oehry and Nick Goldsmith 7-11-04. First Free Ascent: same

#### 14. The Perfect Pint, 5.7, PG

Description: After the first move of "The Tree" route, traverse about 10ft. right (also possible to start this route at the base of "Wild Woman". If you start at "Wild Woman" you have to climb an easy 5.5X ramp). Climb straight up (bouldery) to a small 5 inch wide ledge and the bolt. Face moves just left of the bulge lead to a finger crack and more nice face moves to the top of the buttress. Climb through the alcove to ring anchors. A perfect pint is also available at the McGraths Irish Pub (The Inn at the Long Trail) at the base of the cliff. First

Ascent: Tradman and Patrick McNaly 8-8-2003 (Portions of this climb may have been climbed by Chris Bordenko in the mid 90's).

15. Zeb's Route, 5.9R, PG13

Description: Start about 20 ft. down and right of 'The Tree' at a birch. Climb up and left into the bath tub, a small U-shaped ledge. The rusty bolt is an easy clip from there. Climb through the bulge and find your way up right through the left end of the 'Celibacy Roof' to anchors. First Ascent: Zeb Jacobs, winter 00/01

16. Wild Woman, 75ft. 10a\*\*, G - pin, bolt, small wires, aliens, med. size cams

Description: From the same Birch as ZEBS head straight up a steep face past a pin and a bolt w/brown hanger. Stay well right of the rusty bolt of ZEBS ROUTE (some people have gotten lost there). Climb right through a steep bulge to gain a nice big left facing dihedral. Climb straight up the dihedral on easier ground and finally through the far left end of the big roof reaching the anchors just above and right of the small pine tree. The climb got its name from the first ascent which was originally led by Isa without the bolt. The bolt was then added by hand on lead by Nick. This route takes one day to dry after a hard rain. First Free Ascent: Isa Oehry and Nick Goldsmith 05-08-01.

17. The Full Monty, 75ft, 5.10\*\*\*, G - small wires, aliens, med. cams, pin, 3 bolts

Description: Climb WILD WOMAN up to the beginning of the left facing dihedral. From there climb out right onto a smooth ramp below the roof past a bolt. Turn the roof at its fattest point past another bolt to the CELIBACY anchors. This is the most fun and most exposed/intimidating climb at the Leep. All bolts were drilled on lead, hangers are painted brown. The WILD WOMAN part of the climb takes one day after a rain to dry. First Ascent: Nick Goldsmith and Isa Oehry 07-04-01. First Free Ascent: Pat Corey 11-03-01. His second could not follow the roof.

18. Celibacy, 85ft. 5.9+\*\*\*, PG, most leaders place hands size gear between 4th and 5th bolt, hand or fingers after 6th bolt

Description: Start 15 or 20 feet down and right of WILD WOMAN at the next small birch, perched on a boulder over a pit next to a cave. Climb steep face past 3 bolts, an easy run out to the 4th bolt and then go 3 feet right and straight up past 2 bolts staying to the right of the big roof. Move left along the edge of the roof past a horizontal hand crack to anchors. Excellent climb! Nick Goldsmith drilled all bolts by hand on lead with some crazy gear ripping falls, including a 20ft. ground fall... First Free Ascent: Isa Oehry and Nick Goldsmith 08-22-00.

19. The Bat, 110ft. - open project\*, G

Description: From the start of SPIDERS FROM MARS head out left past 4 bolts (placed on lead) up to the left edge of the huge cave. Turn the corner (micro

nut) out left onto the steep face and up past easier but steep face to the SPIDERS belay ledge. (60 ft. gear belay). First Ascent: Isa Oehry and Nick Goldsmith 07-02-02. First Free Ascent: No free ascent yet. Come and get it - it's a good one. Make sure to let us know!

#### 20. Spiders from Mars, 5.9 A2 or 5.11d\*\*, PG

Description: About 20ft. right of CELIBACY is a huge cave. Climb the crack in the back left corner of the cave to a fixed angle, blue sling. Aid out left or free climb 5.11+ to a belay ledge in an alcove. (Gear belay with large gear). P2: straight up to the trees 5.7R or P2a SPACE WALK 5.9 traverse left and finish on CELIBACY. First Ascent: Nick Goldsmith and Sal Leventino 1986. First Free Ascent: P1: Zeb Jacobs 1997 (?), P2: Mark Bon Signor and Nick Goldsmith 1996, P2a: Isa Oehry and Nick Goldsmith 05-27-02.

#### 21. Project

At the right side of the cave is a wildly overhanging crack with a fixed RURP at its start. It gets wide and gay at the end. Sal Levintino backed off the climb in 1986. Zeb broke the cable on the RURP in 1997 trying to steal it but apparently did not climb the route (?) Where are the hard men and women? Somebody please climb that bad boy! Make sure to let us know if you did.

#### 22. Flat Vision, 5.10c\*\*, G - 5 bolts, knife blade, #2 cam, aliens, ring anchors.

Description: Just past the right end of the cave is a steep, bolted face. Climb the face past 3 bolts (steeper than it looks - hence the name) past easier ground to a 4th bolt. Finish on nice clean and steep face past a 5th bolt (and an alien if necessary) to the anchors. The crux start is a total reach move - so it will be easier for tall climbers with great ape indexes. If you can reach the finger pocket from the ground, it's only 10c. If you have to do a move or two to the pocket, it is probably more 11'ish. The 4th bolt was drilled from a #2 BD micro that blew seconds after Nick finally got the bolt cranked down and clipped. Woohee! First Free Ascent: Isa Oehry and Nick Goldsmith (two shorties) 07-02-03. Left hand finish was added 08-02-03.

#### 23. The Far Side, 5.7+\*\*, G/PG - small wires, med cams, pin, bolt.

Description: Past the huge SPIDERS cave continue right on a shelf until you come to a blocky left facing corner with a tree growing out of it (just right of FLAT VISION). Monkey up a hard move past the tree (use the tree for a 5.7 grade) then easy chimney to the top of the block. Climb sweet low angle face past a pin, a bolt and a sweet, steep, final bulge to a ramp that leads up to the anchors. All fixed pro placed on lead and all cleaning for the first ascent was done on lead as well, resulting in the usual, exciting shenanigans. Sunny and wind sheltered. First Free Ascent: Nick Goldsmith, Isa Oehry and Woody 11-19-01.

24. Lick Tickle and a Spank, 5.10a

Climb the first 3 bolts of CELIBACY then angle left, scary 5.8 face climbing past Aliens/TCU's to join the ramp below the FULL MONTY roof. Finish on FULL MONTY. First Free Ascent: Alex Spencer, Nick Goldsmith 8-25-06

**The Upper Tier:** A small crag just west of the main face. Rap in or walk around on the old West Side Trail. This crag was inaccessible for many years due to deadfall that was recently cleaned up. Climbs listed from left to right.

1. Bugs Sweat and Tears, 5.6, G

Climb the small right facing crack/corner past the scrubby tree, up a crack to a stance and a bouldery finish. Gear anchor. ACB Nick Goldsmith & Isa Oehry 6-23-06.

2. Clean And Sober, 5.7, Protection G

Start at a slab in the middle of the cliff. Climb the slab past a pin to the shallow corner/thin seam just left. Climb the shallow corner to a stance. Steep face or easier on the right to anchors. (Direct finish: topping out past the anchors is 10-ish). ACB Nick Goldsmith rope solo 7-3-06. Old pin scar in the thin seam down low.

3. Fly Feeding Fool, 5.5

A great beginner's lead just right of Clean and Sober. 5.5 face climb past 2 bolts, unprotected 5.2 slab to chains. FA Nick Goldsmith, solo 6/15/07. Nick felt it would be a good beginner's lead so he returned the next day and hand drilled it on the lead, rope solo in the rain, while being eaten by flies...

4. Wish You Were Here, 5.9

At the far right side of the crag is a thin left rising finger crack. Follow the finger crack until it peters out, then straight up to the tree. FA Nick Goldsmith Free Solo 1985.

**The Lower Tier:** Access this tier by taking a left at the very beginning of the Deer Leap Climbing Access trail near the parking lot.

1. The Hard Way, 5.10\*

Steep face climbing up the left edge of the lower tier. Bolts in place, additional gear needed (cams). Alternatively, you may climb out left on the overhanging arete for a pumpy exciting finish. FA Nick Goldsmith, rope solo, cleaning and drilling on the lead 7/22/07. FFA Isa Oehry and Nick Goldsmith 7/29/07.

## 2. The Easy Way, 5.10

Located just right of THE HARD WAY in the middle of the cliff band. Follow 2 bolts past thin face and through the imposing and unlikely roof (bolt) heading out right to a left trending diagonal hand crack. Follow the crack (small hands, fingers) back left and up to ring anchors. Unlike its neighbor THE HARD WAY, this one was cleaned and bolted The Easy Way - on rappel. FFA Isa Oehry and Nick Goldsmith 9-5-07.

## 3. Bag of Tricks, 5.7, C2

The enticing roof and crack system on the right side of the tier. Climb crack out the roof with the requisite head jam, then crack up past the skinny tree to the trail. FA Nick Goldsmith and Isa Oehry 8/05/07. This climb should go free for some eager monkeys. Have at it folks!